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Abstract

A compound having the structural formula

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, wherein X is a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl or a heteroatom; n is 4, 5 or 6; Y is a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, or

wherein R_1 and R_2 are each independently, H, a heteroatom, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl; and wherein each ring structure are independently substituted or unsubstituted is disclosed. Also disclosed are chemosensitizing agents and methods of modulating, attenuating, reversing, or affecting a cell's or organism's resistance to a given drug such as an antimalarial.